1. Introduction of 5 Pair cable and 5 Pair internal Distribution Points (DPs) in all exchange areas.
2. Rehabilitation/ upgradation of outdoor network on regular intervals.
3. Replacement of life expired telephone instruments in phased manner.
4. Replacement of non life expired paper core cable in phased manner.
5. Opening up of more and more Remote Switching Units (RSUs)/ Remote Line Units (RLUs) to reduce cable length.
6. Induction of Digital Loop Carriers (DLCs) with Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) in the network.
7. Centralized fault booking at Sub Divisional Charging Centre (SDCC) through Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS).
8. Provision of reliable transmission media to all exchanges in phased manner.
9. Replacement of all analogue exchanges by digital electronic exchanges.
10. Opening up of new RSUs/RLUs with poleless external plant.

Procurement of Foodgrains in Bihar

†*678. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY :Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of FCI centres in Bihar for procuring foodgrains at support price along with their location;

(b) the target of procurement for the last year and current year along with the details of procurement as on date;

(c) whether procurement of foodgrains is far behind the target and procurement at some centres is negligible; and

(d) if so, the action being taken by Government to meet the target?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) The Procurement Centres (location-wise) opened by the FCI for the procurement of paddy/wheat in Bihar during the Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2002-03 and Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2003-04 are given in the enclosed Statements I&II (*See* below).

(b)and (c) The estimate of the State Government for procurement of Paddy during the KMS 2002-03 is 3.75 lakh MTs, against which the procurement as on 2nd May 2003, was 1.71 lakh MTs. The quantity of paddy procured in the corresponding period last year was 1.33 lakh MTs. Paddy could not be purchased during the current KMS at 18 out of the 100 centres opened by the FCI, mainly due to the paddy not conforming to Fair Average Quality (FAQ) standards.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The estimate of the State Government for procurement of wheat during the RMS 2003-04 is 3 lakh MTs. The Rabi procurement season in Bihar has only now commenced. The quantity of wheat procured during the last season was 0.41 lakh MTs.

(d) To encourage procurement of foodgrains in Bihar, wide publicity has been given on the announced Minimum Support Prices at all the Procurement Centres. For paddy, the FCI opened 100 Procurement Centres, against 41 Centres opened in the previous year. To further benefit the farmers, relaxation in FAQ norms for paddy has been allowed, in Bihar, during the KMS 2002-03.

Statement-I

List of Paddy Procurement Centres Opened During Kharif Marketing Season 2002-03 *in Bihar*

Revenue Distt.	Name of Centre
Bhojpur	1. SWC Arrah
	2. BISCO Jagdishpur
	3. BISCO Bihiya
	4. BISCO Raghunathpur
	5. PIRO
	6. BISCO Garhani
Patna	7. BISCO Masaurhi
	8. SM Bihta
	9. BISCO Barh
	10. FSO Dighaghat
	11. CWC Fatuha
	12. FSD Phulwarisharif
	13. FSD Mokama
Buxar	14. SWC Buxar
	15. BISCO Chausa
	16. SWC Koransaria
Nalanda	17. SWC Biharsharif
	18. BISCO Rajgir
	19. BISCO Hilsa
Gaya	20. SM Gurarn (Gaya)
	21. FSD Gaya

Revenue Distt.		Name of Centre
Jahanabad	22.	BISCO Makhdumpur
	23.	SWC Jahanabad
Aurangabad	24.	SWC Aurangabad
	25.	VM Aurangabad/Daudnagar
	26.	VM Kudra
Nawada	27.	SM Warsaliganj
Rohtas	28.	CWC Nokha
	29.	Nokha II
	30.	Narsiganj
	31.	BISCO Natwar
	32.	BISCO Bikramganj
	33.	SWC Sasaram
Kaimur	34.	BISCO Ramgarh
	35.	CWC Mohania
	36.	Bhabhua
Arwal	37.	Arwal
Bhagalpur	38.	FSD Bhagalpur
	39.	BISCO Navgachiya
	40.	Kahalgaon
Banka	41.	BISCO Banka
Mungyr	42.	BISCO Mungyr
Lakhisarai	43.	SWC Lakhisari
Seikhpura	44.	BISCO Seikhpura
Jamui	45.	Jamui I
	46.	Jamui 11 Sono
Purnea	47.	FSD Bellouri
	48.	SM Banmanki
	49.	SWC Jankinagar
	50.	SWC Kasba

Revenue Distt.		Name of Centre
Kishanganj	51.	APMC Kishanganj
	52.	CWC Kishanganj
Katihar	53.	FSD Katihar
	54.	CWC Katihar
Araria	55.	FSD Forbesganj
Sitamarhi	56.	SWC Sitamarhi
Muzaffarpur	57.	APMC Muzaffarpur
	58.	SWC NRPA
	59.	FSD Brahampura
	60.	APMC Pupri
	61.	APMC Bargania
	62.	FSD Champatia
	63.	Motipur
W. Champaran	64.	SWC Bettiah
	65.	APMC Narkatiaganj
	66.	SM Sugauli
	67.	BISCO Harinagar
E. Champaran	68.	ARDC Chakia
	69.	Raxaul
	70.	BISCO Ghorasahan
W. Champaran	71.	Bagha
Supaul	72.	FSD Raghopur
Madhepura	73.	Alam Nagar
	74.	Chausa (Madhepura)
	75.	Singheshwar Asthan
	76.	SWC Murliganj
	77.	FSD Madhepura
	78.	SWC Triveniganj
Saharsa	79.	FSD Saharsa
Gopalganj	80.	BISCO Gopalganj (KOIN)

Revenue Distt.		Name of Centre
Vaishali	81.	SM Goraul
	82.	Lalganj
Saran	83.	APMC Chapra
	84.	FSD Chapra
Siwan	85.	SM Siwan
	86.	SM Siwan (New)
	87.	SM Mirganj
Madhubani	88.	FSD Jainagar
	89.	SM Rayam
	90.	SM Lohat
	91.	SM Sakri
	92.	APMC Jhanjharpur
Darbhanga	93.	FSD Darbhanga
Begusarai	94.	SWC Teghra
	95.	SWC Tilrath
	96.	SWC Begusarai
	97.	SWC Balia
Samastipur	98.	SM Samastipur
Khagaria	99.	APMC Khagaria
	100.	CWC Jitwarpur

Statement-II

List of Wheat Procurement Centres Opened During During Rabi Marketing Season 2002-03 *in Bihar*

Revenue Distt.		Name of Centre
Bhojpur	1.	SWC Arrah
	2.	SWC Bihiya
Patna	3.	SWC Masaurhi
	4.	SM Bihta
Buxar	5.	SWC Buxar
Nalanda	6.	SWC Biharsharif
Gaya	7.	SM Guraru (Gaya)

Revenue Distt.		Name of Centre
Jahanabad	8.	SWC Jahanabad
Aurangabad	9.	SWC Aurangabad
Nawada	10.	SM Warsaliganj
Rohtas	11.	CWC Nokha
	12.	SWC/BS Sasaram
Kaimur	13.	BISCO Bhabhua
Arwal	14.	Arwal
Bhagalpur	15.	APMC Bhagalpur
Munger	16.	CWC Munger
Seikhpura	17.	Seikhpura
Lakhisarai	18.	Mokama
Purnea	19.	FSD Bellouri
Kishanganj	20.	APMC Kishanganj
Katihar	21.	SWC Katihar
Araria	22.	FSO Forbesganj
Sitamarhi	23.	SWC Sitamarhi
Muzaffarpur	24.	FSD Brahampura
W. Champaran	25.	FSD Chanpatia
	26.	Bagaha
E. Champaran	27.	ARDC Chakia
	28.	SWC Raxaul
Supaul	29.	FSD Raghopur
Madhepura	30.	FSD Madhepura
Saharsa	31.	FSD Saharsa
Gopalganj	32.	SM Mirganj
Vaishali	33.	SM Goraul
Saran	34.	APMC Chapra
Siwan	35.	SM Siwan
Madhubani	36.	FSD Jainagar
	37.	Jhanjharpur
Darbhanga	38.	CWC Darbhanga
Begusarai	39.	SWC Tilrath
Samastipur	40.	SM Samastipur
Khagaria	41.	Khagaria